

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A ceramic colorant in the form of a suspension, the colorant comprising particles of colorant having nanometric dimensions ~~in which the solvent of, wherein~~ the suspension contains a solvent ~~is a high-boiling alcohol~~ selected from the group consisting of diethylene glycol, ethylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol, ~~and wherein~~ the suspension includes an appropriate amount of water to facilitate hydrolysis, and wherein the particles of colorant are selected from the group consisting of:

$M^{II}M^{III}_2O_4$, where M^{II} is selected from the group consisting of Fe^{II} , Zn, Co, Ni, and Mn, and M^{III} is selected from the group consisting of Fe^{III} , Al, Cr, and Mn;

$CoAl_2O_4$;

$Ti(Sb,Cr)O_2$;

$(Zr,Pr)SiO_4$;

$(Zr,V)SiO_4$;

$(AlCr)_2O_3$;

$(Al,Cr)MO_3$, where M is selected from the group consisting of Y, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, and Yb;

$Ti(Sb,Ni)O_2$;

$(ZrV)O_2$;

$(Sn,V)O_2$;

$CaSn_{1-x}Cr_xSiO_5$, where x is between 0.01 and 0.1;

$Sn_{1-x}Cr_xO_{3-x/2}$, where x is between 0.01 and 0.1;

Au^0 ;

Ag^0 ; and

Cu^0 .

2. (Previously Presented) The ceramic colorant according to Claim 1, in which the particles have diameters of between 5 nm and 600 nm.

3-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) A process for the preparation of ceramic colorants, the process comprising the steps of:

adding salts of desired metals to a known volume of alcohol to form a solution;

heating under stirring the solution to complete solubilization of the salts;

adding an appropriate amount of water for facilitating hydrolysis of the salts;

heating the solution to a temperature higher than 150°C for furthering the hydrolysis and to form a suspension;

cooling the suspension to room temperature once the hydrolysis reaction is completed;

utilizing one of dialysis and ultrafiltration to perform at least one of eliminating the salts and replacing the solvent;

centrifuging the suspension to form a precipitate.

6. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 5 further including the steps of:

adding reagents (solutions of salts of metals) to a polar solvent previously brought to the desired temperature of hydrolysis;

bringing the suspension to room temperature; and

dehydrating the reaction environment with dehydrating agents.

7. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 5 further including the steps of:

dissolving the salts are in the high-boiling alcohol at an adequate temperature;

adding an unmixable solvent to the high-boiling alcohol to form an emulsion of micelles of nanometric dimensions;

adding an appropriate amount of water to the suspension under stirring to facilitate hydrolysis, allowing it to react at a temperature higher than 120°C; and

cooling the suspension to room temperature.

8-11 (Canceled)

12. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 5 further including the step of collecting and drying the precipitate to obtain the colorant in the form of a powder.

13. (Cancelled)